



Kentucky Social Studies Resource Guide High School: Civics Standards

Use the suggested sources below to help teach the Kentucky strand of the KAS for Social Studies.

HS.C.KGO.1 Explain how the Kentucky Constitution embodies the principles of rule of law, popular sovereignty, separation of powers and checks and balances.



Title: Ballot Box, ca. 1920

Context: A typical ballot box used in Kentucky elections in the early 20th century.

Questions: How do elections and the act of voting support the concept of popular sovereignty? How do citizens help uphold or knock down the Constitution? Give an example of the use of the Constitution in everyday life.

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/A3237689-F77B-49C1-B9EF-483854442972>



Title: The Housewives Code Political Cartoon, ca. 1953 by Norman Ritchie

Context: This cartoon references several policies from President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. Regulations from the National Recovery Administration (NRA) were eventually deemed unconstitutional because it gave the executive branch power over states legislative rights, a violation of the U.S. Constitution's separation of powers.

Questions: Why is separation of powers important? Can you name a recent example when the question of separation of powers has arisen? How does separation of powers at the federal level impact Kentucky citizens?

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/FB276F8F-5FBB-4E4C-BC2C-291662122426>

HS.C.KGO.2 Compare Kentucky's government to other states and to the federal government.

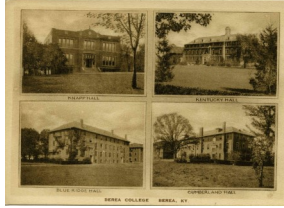


Title: "President Hayes at Louisville," *Harper's Weekly*, October 6, 1877

Context: A visit to the Galt House in Louisville inspired a speech by President Rutherford B. Hayes about the U.S. Constitution and resolution after the Civil War.

Questions: Why is 1877 considered the end of Reconstruction? What is the tone of the speech, seen in the text at the bottom left of the image? Why was it critical for Kentuckians to obey the whole Constitution and amendments? Were there differences between the U.S. and Kentucky Constitutions that Kentuckians would have had to reconcile themselves with? Explain.

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/1C978D8F-A113-4615-B1E0-181033081040>



Title: Berea College, Berea, Kentucky, ca. 1917

Context: In January, 1904, Representative Carl Day of Breathitt County introduced a bill “to prohibit white and colored persons from attending the same school.” It was passed in the House by a vote of 73 to 5 and in the Senate by the margin of 28 to 5. The Day Law went into effect on July 15 until it was amended in 1948 and again in 1950. It was ruled unconstitutional by the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*. The Day Law was aimed at only one school—Berea College, which at that time was the only integrated school in the state or in the South.

Questions: Did other states propose or pass bills similar to Kentucky’s Day Law? Why did the federal government overturn it instead of the Kentucky government? Have other people been subjected to types of segregation laws like this one? Give an example. Do laws still exist that create segregation or other social restrictions today? Give an example.

Link: <https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/collection/Morgan/id/1026>



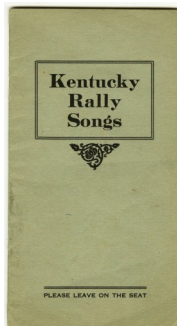
Title: Bicentennial Commemoration Pin, 1992

Context: This promotional pin with the state motto and outline of Kentucky was distributed by the Kentucky Bicentennial Commission.

Questions: What is the difference between a commonwealth and a state? How does the government of Kentucky compare with that of other U.S. states?

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/D9F5B763-EC0A-4FB8-BA21-574992153852>

HS.C.KGO.3 Describe how active citizens can affect change in their communities and Kentucky.

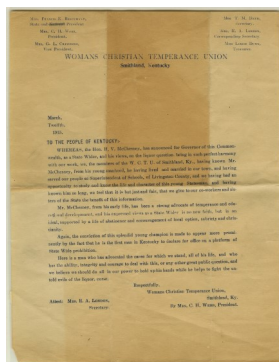


Title: Kentucky Rally Songs, 1914

Context: A collection of lyrics set to popular tunes promoting the ideas of the Kentucky Women’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU).

Questions: What was the goal of this pamphlet? Do you think it was successful? Choose one of the songs and analyze its lyrics. Would it have persuaded you to join the temperance movement? Why or why not?

Link: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/RB/id/8515/rec/1>

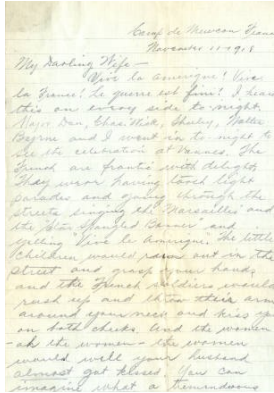


Title: Woman’s Christian Temperance Union Letter, March 12, 1915

Context: One of the largest and most influential women’s groups of the 19th century, the WCTU worked for labor reform and suffrage. By 1900 the WCTU focused primarily on Prohibition.

Questions: What is the purpose of this letter? How does the WCTU feel about H.V. McChesney? What impact do groups like the WCTU have on political elections today?

Link: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25412>

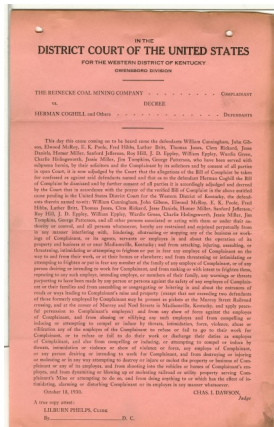


Title: George Chescheir to Elizabeth Chescheir Letter, November 11, 1918

Context: In this letter from France, a National Guardsman from Springfield, Kentucky, writes to his wife about the Armistice, the joy and appreciation of the French people, and his desire to return home and see his loved ones.

Questions: What is the tone of this letter? Give an example that supports your reasoning. How does Chescheir describe the reaction of the French people to peace? What is his prediction for future relations between France and Germany? Chescheir's actions impacted the world; how did they impact Kentucky?

Link: <https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25889>



Titles: Diamond Coal Co. vs. Jasper Sigler, July 14, 1930; Trio Coal Co. Court Order, October 15, 1930; and Reinecke Coal Mining Co. vs. Herman Coghill, October 18, 1930

Context: Various court orders related to picketing and other union related activities surrounding Kentucky mining operations.

Questions: Pick one of the court orders and analyze its purpose. What does the order specifically prohibit? Where were these events taking place? Were similar events happening elsewhere in Kentucky and the nation? Explain.

Links: <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25406/rec/1>, <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25395/rec/1> and <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25444/rec/1>



Title: Five boy scouts with den mother, 1930

Context: In this image, five boy scouts from Troop 326 pose on the hood of a car with their den mother.

Questions: How does this image of boy scouts from nearly 100 years ago compare with images of boy scouts today? What types of activities did scouts participate in 1930 compared with today? Do you think scouts make young people more civically engaged? Why or why not?

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/MS/id/11559/rec/29>



Title: American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association Banquet, February 25, 1931

Context: At the annual American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) banquet in Louisville in 1931, a Greek flag was presented to Kentucky. AHEPA was founded in 1922 to "fight hatred, bigotry and discrimination and to help Greek immigrants assimilate into American society."

Questions: How have Greek immigrants made a mark on Kentucky? Is it typical for immigrants to form ethnic-centric organizations in their new homes? Give an example. Describe the impact of fraternal organizations like AHEPA in your community.

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/Cusick/id/1015/rec/1>



Title: National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club, 1935
Context: The National Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW/USA) was founded in Frankfort on July 16, 1919, and was the first national organization to focus on issues related to working women. Members lobbied successfully to oppose legislation that refused jobs to married women and it was one of the earliest women's organizations to endorse the equal rights amendment of 1937.

Questions: How did the actions of this group of Kentucky women impact women throughout the U.S.? Has the BPW/USA and similar organizations achieved true equality for working women? Explain. What role does lobbying play in U.S. politics? Is lobbying a good or bad thing? Why or why not?

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/Cusick/id/1490/rec/1>

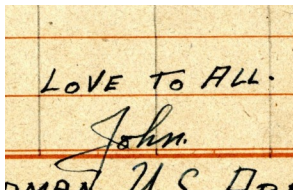


Title: Citizenship Training for Girls and Boys, 1940

Context: This postcard promoted scouting programs for girls and boys to help teach them loyalty to flag and country and to develop allegiance to democratic principals.

Questions: Why would this have been a popular message in 1940? Is this message still popular today? Should it be? Explain. Do scouting programs still focus on patriotism? How do young people act as good citizens today?

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MS/id/4212/rec/42>



Title: John H. Rodman Papers, 1942-1944

Context: During World War II, Rodman, an Owensboro native, was an infantry commander in the Philippines. Captured on April 9, 1942, he remained a Japanese prisoner of war until September, 1945.

Questions: Choose one of the pieces of correspondence in this collection. Identify its author, addressee and tone. What can you learn about Rodman's situation at the time the correspondence was written? What does it tell you about communication during World War II? Rodman's actions impacted the world; how did they impact Kentucky?

Link: <https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/search/searchterm/Kentucky%20Historical%20Society%2C%20John%20H.%20Rodman%20papers%2C%20MSS%20141/field/source/mode/exact/conn/and>



Title: Library Poster, ca. 1952

Context: In 1952, the American Library Association worked to increase voter turnout by sharing election information and arranging discussion groups and activities in libraries. This poster hung in the library in Glasgow, Kentucky.

Questions: Who promotes the importance of voting today? Do you think it is a citizen's responsibility to vote? Why or why not? Have the responsibilities of voting changed since the founding of the U.S.? Explain.

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/0D513C6C-39B4-4682-B7AE-492621143939>



Title: Oral History Interview #6 with Georgia Davis Powers, 2002

Context: In 1967 Powers became the first African American and the first woman elected to the Kentucky Senate. There she advocated for African Americans, women, children, the poor, and the handicapped. In this video excerpt (5:08 minutes), Powers describes how she wrote a bill regarding open housing and how she convinced other politicians to support it.

Questions: Why does Powers say one vote is important? What did Powers do to convince others to help change laws?

Link: http://kyoralhistory.com/ohms-viewer-master/viewer.php?cachefile=2002OH05_06f.xml



Title: Sticker, 2017

Context: In August, 2017, a group called “Take Back Cheapside” encouraged the Lexington City Council to vote in favor of relocating two Confederate monuments out of downtown. When Lexington’s City Hall was filled to capacity during the council meeting, the overflow crowd held an impromptu rally in support of the removal on Main Street. The council voted unanimously to remove the two statues from Cheapside Park, which was renamed Tandy Centennial Park in 2020.

Questions: Why did protesters challenge the presence of the monuments? Did public opinion influence the vote of city council members? How did this event in Kentucky compare to similar ones occurring elsewhere in the U.S. during the same period? Can this protest be compared to others in U.S. history? Give an example to support your reasoning. What are the pros and cons of protesting?

Link: <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/8CE4344E-8D9E-4889-BE98-968142937233>



Title: Kentucky Teacher Protests Tweet Collection, February 18—March 8, 2019

Context: Collection of Tweets related to Kentucky teachers protesting the Kentucky General Assembly and Governor Matt Bevin’s handling of Kentucky’s pension crisis.

Questions: How does social media help affect change? How have different forms of media helped affect change in the past? How did this event in Kentucky compare to similar ones occurring elsewhere in the U.S. during the same period? Can this protest be compared to others in U.S. history? Give an example to support your reasoning. What are the pros and cons of protesting?

Link: <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/MS/id/17840/rec/2>

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